

18 August 1958

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Discussion of Soviet and US Long Range Ballistic Missile Programs

PRESENT: Director of Central Intelligence
Senator Stuart Symington
Col. Tom G. Lanphier (formerly an assistant to Mr. Symington, formerly President of the Air Force Association, now Assistant to the President of Convair)
Howard Stoertz, Jr., ONE Staff

PLACE AND TIME: DCI's office, 6 August 1958

Senator Symington opened by describing Col. Lanphier's background and experience, his knowledge of the Atlas program, and his long interest in the relative strength of the US and the USSR. The Senator expressed his great confidence in Lanphier, based on long personal association. Lanphier had come to him only the day before with information on Soviet IRBM and ICBM progress which did not agree with what the DCI had told him a short time before (on 21 July, also in DCI's office). The Senator felt the only thing to do was to lay the problem on the table with the DCI, and had cleared his intention with Senator Russell before coming. Lanphier added that Senator Symington and the DCI were the first people to whom he had voiced his concern. The Senator indicated that they both planned to talk with Henry Kissinger that night.

Lanphier said his information on US programs came from personal experience, and his information on what the Soviets are doing came from people in the US intelligence services. It became clear during the discussion that he referred to people in the intelligence components of the military services, in the AEC, and in CIA. He did not further identify his informants.

Lanphier said the Atlas program to develop a 5,500 nautical mile missile began officially 3½ years ago. Last week, within a few weeks of the original schedule, a relatively complete Atlas was successfully fired, testing all the elements of the system for the first time. This missile went about 2,500 miles.

The next milestone, delivery to a military base of an operational missile that can react in less than ½ hour and cover the target area in Russia, will occur some time in 1960 at the earliest. (Lanphier

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Approved for Release
Date 01 1960

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